

INFORMATION REPORT

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of German SMA Personnel

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- 25X1X 1. The most recent in the series of indoctrination lectures for German experts employed by the SMA in Karlshorst was delivered on 10 March 1948 by Major (Lt. Col?) Alexander Dymshits, who spoke on the changes which will be effected by the new Economic Commission. He pointed out that a number of mistakes, the repetition of which would seriously retard economic recovery, were made during the past year. It will be the duty of the Economic Commission to prevent such a catastrophe by introducing stricter discipline into the administrations and factories and by meting out severe punishment for acts of sabotage. Dymshits stated that he and Major Romm had been appointed to conduct a political purge of the administrations. A few more factories of the state-owned industries will be absorbed by the Soviet AGs, since the directors of the larger key plants have proved to be incompetent and the SED functionaries appointed in a supervisory capacity are unreliable.
2. Dymshits said that an interzonal exchange of goods is highly desirable. Nevertheless, in view of the conflicting opinions of the occupying powers, the eastern zone must adjust itself to an independent existence and not rely upon the other zones for economic assistance. Unity within the Russian zone is to be the main objective; it is hoped that the formation of the "Volksrat" will constitute an important advance in this direction. The new order on denazification should help to smooth out remaining political differences. An unwritten order now exists on the discharge of prisoners-of-war, which is designed to prevent the further increase of dissatisfied elements in the Russian zone. This order provides that prisoners of war whose residence is in the western zones will actually be sent home; those who should return to the Russian zone, however, will receive official discharges but will be detained indefinitely for essential work.

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